



## Mott Lecture 2011



If you have any enquiries or any news or events you would like covering in a future newsletter please contact Victoria Webster on:

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Thank you and we hope you enjoyed this issue.

A date for the annual prestigious Mott Lecture 2011 has been set for Wednesday 16th March. Please put it in your diaries.

The lecture is given in honour of Sir Nevill Mott by an eminent Physicist whose

work is related to Nevill Mott's research. Previous years lecturers have included Professor Raymond Goldstein, Professor Emanuel Rashba and Professor Roger Penrose.

The lecturer for 2011 will be Professor Petrashov from Royal Holloway.

Full and further information will be released early in 2011. If you have any questions prior to this, please contact v.j.webster@lboro.ac.uk



## Winter Graduation



The winter graduation ceremonies are due to take place on Monday 20th December for physics graduates. You can join in with the celebrations by watching the ceremony live on the web cam.

Congratulations to all the physics students who will be graduating at this ceremony and we wish you luck in your future career path.



# PHYSICS DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER



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## Official Observatory Opening

The official opening of the Physics Department Observatory took place on a fine stary night in the middle of October.



The event was well attended by both members and family from the department and invited guests, which included Prof Chris Linton, Dean of Science Faculty and Prof Ken Parsons, Pro vice-chancellor of Research, who was instrumental in pushing the project forward to completion.

Bryan Dennis for organising the event and all the support staff and postgraduates for their help in constructing the observatory and installing the 16" Meade telescope.



He added that the observatory was already popular with the department's students as part of their Physics and Cosmology



The event was blessed with a clear sky so the attendees were able to observe a clear image of Jupiter, and some of its moons together with an observation of the star cluster M13. These were ably demonstrated by postgraduates Mike Pierpoint and Phil Sutton. Phil, also a member of the technical support, is responsible for the observatory on a day to day basis.

degree. Now that there are two postgraduates using the facility he hoped that it will be developed further.

He finished his talk by saying that the department had now ordered a Radio Telescope from America, which would, when installed and commissioned will broaden the scope of the department's cosmological observations.



### Dates for your diary:

- UCAS Visits:  
 26th January,  
 2nd, 9th and  
 16th February  
 and 2nd, 9th,  
 16th, 23rd  
 and 30th  
 March.



We would like to wish everyone a

# Merry Christmas

# And a

# Happy

# New Year





## Congratulations on the EPSRC Grant

Congratulations once again to Luke Chalmers, Daniel Elford, Feo Kusmartsev and Gerry Swallowe on their EPSRC grant.

The grant title is 'Practical Sound Attenuation using Broad Band Sound Attenuating Devices' and is aimed at reducing sound pollution. They have developed a novel design of Broad Band Sound Attenuating Device which can be configured to operate in a wide variety of situa-



tions. The small scale laboratory prototype performs better than conventional barriers. A very important and beneficial property of the technology is its scalability. It can be tailored to attenuate sounds over the whole acoustic (and ultrasonic) range. This means it can be readily adapted to suit a wide range of applications. Two key markets have been identified where legislation requires improved protection from sound pollution in the near future: environmental noise from rail/roads and protection from noisy machinery.

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## Gwyn Jones Prize Winner

A prize to the value of £100 is awarded to a final year student on a four year programme who produces the best presentation following their industrial training period. This is awarded at graduation.

This years winner was Adam Smith who spent his year in industry at ASTeC.

Congratulations Adam.



Welcome



We would like to welcome Dr Sergey Slizovskiy to the department who recently joined us as a Research Associate.

His research interests include novel materials, quantum criticality in ferromagnets and holographic methods in condensed matter.



## Congratulations

Joanne Beanland, Luke Chalmers, Daniel Elford and Alex Paraskevov have all completed their PhD's. They will all graduate in this years winter graduation ceremony on Monday 20th December. Well done.

We wish you all good luck for the future and hope you have a happy working career.



Well Done Mike

We would like to congratulate Dr Mike Forrester who received the Erwin Schrödinger Society Poster Award for his poster 'The Nano-blade: A Magneto-Mechanical Initiation of Apoptosis in Cancer Cells' presented at the recent 2nd International Congress 'Nanotechnology in Biology and Medicine 2010' Conference in Austria.

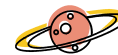
Well done Mike.



## Coming Soon



A three metre CASSI Radio Telescope tuned to detect the Hydrogen line at 1420Mhz.



## Solar Images



These images of the sun were taken with the departments 16" Meade telescope. The image to the right was taken with a longer exposure than the image on the left and shows a couple of prominences in the top right. You can also see a couple of sun spots on both images which are active regions 1113 and 1115.

